## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

KRISTY VARGAS, individually and on behalf of all other similarly situated	)
individuals,	)
Plaintiff,	)
vs.	) Case No. 4:22-cv-01187-MTS
J&J SNACK FOODS CORP., et al.,	)
Defendants.	)

## MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

This matter is before the Court on the parties' Joint Motion for FLSA Settlement Approval. Doc. [43]. After examining the settlement agreement and the parties' filings, the Court concludes that the litigation involves a bona fide dispute and that the settlement the parties propose is fair and equitable to each side. *See Tanner v. Empire Financing, Co.*, 4:19-cv-0825-SEP, 2020 WL 7316115, at \*1–2 (E.D. Mo. Dec. 11, 2020); *see also Williams v. BPV Mkt. Place Invs., LLC*, 4:14-cv-1047-CAS, 2014 WL 5017934, at \*2 (E.D. Mo. Oct. 7, 2014). Thus, the Court will approve the parties' settlement.

The parties also "agree Plaintiffs are entitled to reasonable attorneys' fees and costs for Plaintiffs' counsel's efforts in securing the Agreement." Doc. [43] at 7. But the parties dispute "the measure of attorneys' fees and costs that would be reasonable and to which Plaintiffs' counsel is entitled." *Id.* To resolve this remaining dispute, the parties have requested that the Court determine and award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs to Plaintiffs' counsel through a contested fee application process. To that end, they have

requested a briefing schedule. The Court, therefore, will enter a briefing schedule for that process.

Accordingly,

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the parties' Joint Motion for FLSA Settlement Approval, Doc. [43], is **GRANTED**, and the parties' settlement is **APPROVED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiffs shall file any fee petition no later than <u>Thursday</u>, <u>March 21</u>, <u>2024</u>. Defendant J&J Snack Foods Corp., Defendant Daddy Ray's, Inc., and Third-Party Defendant Randstad General Partner (US), LLC shall have <u>fourteen days</u> from the date of the filing of Plaintiffs' fee petition to file any response or joint response. Plaintiffs may file a reply to any response(s) within <u>seven days</u> of its filing.

Dated this 7th day of March 2024.

MATTHEW T. SCHELP

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE